WEST HAM SPEEDWAY

AT 7.45 PM

WEST HAM STADIUM

★ "SUNDAY MIRROR" SPONSORED ★

F.I.M. Speedway Championship of the World

★ BRITISH FINAL ★

Tuesday, 15th August, 1967

Official Souvenir Programme - - 1/6d.

NIGEL BOOCOCK. England and Coventry. Number Two to Barry Briggs in British Speedway, Nigel stepped into the breach to lead Great Britain against Sweden and Poland in the absence of B.B. earlier this year. Capped for Great Britain and England in all six matches against Sweden and Poland, Nigel is a regular British and World Finalist.

PICTURE PARADE

RICK FRANCE. England and Coventry. Another having his first British Final, Rick has also won International caps this year against Sweden at Coventry and at Wolverhampton against the Poles. One of England's rising hopes, Rick owes a great deal to regular rides in the former Provincial League.

MARTIN ASHBY. England and Swindon. Reserve for last year's British Final Martin is now riding well enough to make his World Final debut in a month's time. Has ridden only for Swindon where his stylish riding and heavy points-scoring is rather overshadowed by Briggs and Broadbanks. Capped for England against Sweden at Exeter earlier this year.

Tonight's Finalists

TREVOR HEDGE. England and Wimbledon. Discovered at Norwich, Trevor first made an impact on speedway at Hackney and the Stars quickly snapped him back. Joined the Dons when the Norfolk track was forced to close down, Trevor has now developed into a solid heat-leader, earlier this year winning International caps against Sweden and Poland.

REG LUCKHURST. England and Wimbledon. A discovery from the grass tracks of Kent, it wasn't until joining Wimbledon that Luckhurst really came to the fore, although he was always a man to be reckoned with in his Southampton and West Ham days. Made his only World Final appearance in 1965.

BARRY BRIGGS. New Zealand and Swindon. What is there to say about this man that hasn't been said before? World Champion, British Champion, Golden Helmet and Silver Sash Match Race Champion. You name the event—and at some time in his career Barry's won it, but for the European Championship any way! Plagued with injury this year, Barry has still been a match for anyone when he's been in the saddle. Skipper of Great Britain.

behind the Hammers with dave lanning

AND SO TO PERHAPS the greatest, the toughest, the most closely–contested event on the British domestic racing calendar. The British Final of the World Championship. The last hurdle.

Tonight we shall see the 1967 British champion crowned. It's a title surprisingly steeped historically with links with West Ham; the first-ever British Championship was held at Belle Vue Manchester, and won by Eric Chitty, a name synonomous with past glory here at Custom House.

Chitty went on to win it twice more in the next two years. And we wonder the degree of astonishment that would be registered by any of the British Championship competitors of those miraculous, blitz-ridden Belle Vue war-time tournaments, should they see the progress that should be evocative of our parade of many talents tonight.

Yes, we've progressed. Our league system in Britain is now the best-run, slickest-organised in the world. And we are watching the cream of this system racing in possibly the most competitive of all speedway meetings.

FOR NOT ONLY IS the British title up for stake. Tonight six, a mere six, places are available to the top scoring riders in the World Championship Final, to be staged at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, September 16th, 1967.

True, the Final itself cannot be bettered for glamour, tension, mounting excitement. It, after all, is the ultimate in speedway. *But tonight is the nearest thing to it.*

At Wembley, every man roars in, dreaming of winning the World title. At Wembley, 25 per cent of the field return after their first outing with their dreams shattered. You can't afford a last place in the Final.

But tonight. There's gold awaiting for not just the first, second and third. There's the end of the rainbow for SIX MEN. For there is not one man on parade tonight whose ambition is not to qualify for the World Final.

So no-one will abandon hope. Not until the last race is run, the last chequered flag dropped.

Tonight we will see rivalry, sporting rivalry, at a peak which is rarely equalled in speedway. Tonight six men will emerge triumphant; ten others will creep away, dejected as men can be.

For there is nothing, *nothing* so heart-breaking as being so near.....and yet so far.

OUR DUTY AS HOSTS is simple: to provide a stage, a back-cloth fitting to such an event, a meeting which should be tinged in royal purple.

We are tremendously conscious of this honour in staging the event; in being selected for this duty.

But we feel, sincerely, that we are capable of rising to the occasion. Our track here at Custom House is acknowledged as one of the fairest in Britain. Every rider out there has an equal chance. There's no tricks attached; no home track advantage. Any with courage, speed, nerve and skill will find West Ham as simple to ride as any track in the world.

This has always been our boast. The performances of the World Champions, Poland, on their first-ever visit here one month ago, bore this claim out.

WHAT A TERRIFIC PLEASURE it is to welcome our glamorous guest, Miss Julie Rogers, one of Britain's most breath-taking pop singers, to her first-ever speedway meeting tonight.

Julie, 24, is a London girl—from up Wembley way, actually—and has rocketted to international star status in the last few years. A globetrotter, a swinging fashion designer, an outstanding vocal talent and a lovely girl—it's gonna be a lucky winner who receives the British Championship Trophy and a kiss from Julie tonight! Her latest record is the old Inkspots hit "Bless You" and we'll be playing it tonight just to say "Thank You" to Julie for coming along.

We welcome the executives of the Sunday Mirror, the national newspaper whose sponsorship of this great speedway event has won them a special place in the heart of every speedway follower.

(Cont. on page 5)

SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD ★ 1967

★ BRITISH FINAL ★

SPONSORED BY THE "SUNDAY MIRROR"

IT'S SIX OF ONE, AND HALF A DOZEN OF THE OTHER says "Sunday Mirror" Columnist DON CLARKE.

Hit 'em for six! That will be the thought in the minds of sixteen riders who go out tonight to stake a claim in the World Final at Wembley Stadium, on Saturday, September 16.

Two months ago 101 British riders started on the golden road to Wembley, with a gleam in their eyes, and hope in their hearts, that they were all destined for World Final honours.

After nineteen preliminary rounds, and two Semi-Finals, the British qualifiers for Speedway's greatest night has been reduced to sixteen.

And tonight comes the moment of truth. Each of tonight's competitors knows that only six of them can go forward to Wembley.

If these sixteen gladiators think they have had a tough ride reaching tonight's British Final, just wait until they go to the starting tapes.

Despite the odds, you can rest assured that tonight's challengers will be riding hell for leather. They all know that glittering "Sunday Mirror" prize monies of £200, £100 and £50, for the British Final winners, and £1,000, £250 and £100 at Wembley, are within their grasp.

Raging hot favourite fot tonight's top prize must be four-times World Championship winner Barry Briggs, of Swindon.

But reputations count for nothing—particularly in World Championship racing.

European champion Ivan Mauger (Newcastle), Coventry's Nigel Boocock and brother Eric (Halifax); Hackney's Colin Pratt, who rode superbly against Poland here a month ago; Wimbledon fliers Trevor Hedge and Reg Luckhurst, and Swindon's Martin Ashby and Mike Broadbanks, all know their way round this circuit as well as they know the backs of their hands.

All will be out for "Sunday Mirror" prize monies, as well as a place in Wembley's 'Night of Nights'.

The Continentals are also in hot pursuit of World Final gold and honours.

The Scandinavian preliminaries have been settled and Ove Fundin (Sweden and Belle Vue), Sverre Harrfeldt (West Ham), Lief Enecrona (Sweden), Bernt Persson (Edinburgy), Bengt Jansson (Hackney), Anders Michanek (Long Eaton), Gunnar Malmqvist (Exeter), and Olle Nygren, are through to the European Final, at Wroclaw, Poland, on August 28.

Iron Curtain challengers for the European Final will decide which eight go forward to join the Scandinavian contingent, at Kempton, West Germany, on Sunday, and this is how they will line up:

B. Samoradov, I. Plechanov, G. Kurilenko (Russia); T. Wyglenda, S. Ruarez, J. Trzeskowski, A. Woryna, P. Waloszek, E. Migos, A. Porgorzelski (Poland); J. Dinse, J. Hehler (East Germany); M. Werner, J. Holub, P. Mares, L. Tomicek (Czechoslovakia).

From the sixteen Scandinavian and Iron Curtain challengers at Wroclaw, Poland, ten will come forward to meet the six British finalists at Wembley.

So the World Final picture is gradually falling into shape. Only five weeks to go before the six British and ten Continentals clash at Wembley to decide who will wear the World Championship crown !

Our Special Guest this evening, charming, talented singing star, JULIE ROGERS. WELCOME to West Ham MISS JULIE !

COVER KINGS

In thrilling semi-final action at Sheffield (l to r) George Hunter, Eric Boocock, Rick France and Colin Pratt — all successful Qualifiers here tonight.

West Ham Speedway

Promoters: West Ham Speedway Limited
West Ham Stadium, London, E.16. Telephone Albert Dock 2441.

— Officials —

A.C.U. Referee: A. W. Day Clerk of the Course: Dave Lanning A.C.U. Timekeeper: R. J. Rowe
Team Managers: D. E. Lanning & P. E. Bishop Announcer: Ted Sear
Machine Examiner: H. Carter Starting Marshal: H. J. Hawtin Pit Marshal: A. Carter
Colour Marshal: J. Murphy Medical Officer: Dr. White, M.B.
St. John Ambulance Brigade in attendance Track Grader by courtesy of Jessups (Stratford) Ltd.
Track Manager: T. Lyons

Old Track Record: (Four Laps, Clutch Start) Jack Young (West Ham) 70.6 secs. 1st June, 1954
New Track Record (Small Wheel): Sverre Harrfeldt (West Ham) 71.8 secs., 4th July, 1967.
Ilford Recorder One Lap Flying Start Record: Sverre Harrfeldt (W.H.), 17.6 secs., 25th July, 1967.

F.I.M. SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

★ 1967 BRITISH FINAL ★

and BRITISH RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

TONIGHT'S FINALISTS — in riding order

No.	*Rider*	*Country*	*Track*
1.	**Nigel Boocock**	England	Coventry
2.	**Rick France**	England	Coventry
3.	**Martin Ashby**	England	Swindon
4.	**Trevor Hodge**	England	Wimbledon
5.	**Reg Luckhurst**	England	Wimbledon
6.	**Barry Briggs****	N. Zealand	Swindon
7.	**Terry Betts**	England	Kings Lynn
8.	**George Hunter**	Scotland	Edinburgh
9.	**Cyril Maidment**	England	Wimbledon
10.	**Roy Trigg**	England	Oxford
11.	**Colin Pratt**	England	Hackney
12.	**Ivan Mauger***	N. Zealand	Newcastle
13.	**Eric Boocock**	England	Halifax
14.	**Jim Airey**	Australia	Wolverhampton
15.	**Mike Broadbanks**	England	Swindon
16.	**Ray Wilson**	England	Long Eaton
		—The Reserves—	
17.	**Charlie Monk**	Australia	Glasgow
18.	**Geoff Mudge**	Australia	Poole

**World and British Champion *European Champion

BEHIND THE HAMMERS—*cont.*

And we welcome all our friends and managerial rivals from the British League, whose banner we proudly carry tonight.

To bring a dash of colour and spectacle to the occasion, we present the youth of the East End of London, because our policy at West Ham has, we hope. always been a lively, youthful one.

The Romford Drum and Trumpet Corps are becoming nationally known for their expertise and displays.

And we have the girls of the Dagenham Play Leadership Drum Majorette Troupe.

Yes, it's a big night in the East End, where in speedway circles we wear our hearts on our sleeves and are not ashamep of it.

Now let the fanfares sound, the machines roar, and let this mighty, tradition-steeped West Ham arena become engulfed in the electric, white-hot atmosphere of full-throttle speedway tension.

The atmosphere it has known so often in the past. And still loves best of all.

May the best man win. And may we all relive this night for years and years and years to come.

Dave Lanning

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

21st MEETING (4th Season) TUESDAY, 15th AUGUST, 1967

— "SUNDAY MIRROR" SPONSORED —

F.I.M. Speedway Championship of the World

✯ BRITISH FINAL ✯

Raced over Twenty Heats, each of Four Laps, from Clutch Start. Event decided on Race Points: 1st—3, 2nd—2, 3rd—1. Riders are identified by Helmet Colours. Keep the Score Chart on Page 7. Track grading takes place twice before Heats marked thus * in order to provide rest period for riders engaged in consecutive heats.

Starting Grids: 1—Red. 2—Blue. 3—White. 4—Yellow and Black.

Heat		RIDERS	Substitute	Helmet Colours	Points Scored by Riders	Result	Remarks
1	1	Nigel Boocock		Red	3	1st R	
Time	2	Rick France		Blue	2	2nd B	
71·2	3	Martin Ashby		White	1	3rd W	
	4	Trevor Hedge		Y & B	—	4th Y	
2	5	Reg Luckhurst		Red	2	1st W	Y Engine Failure
Time	7	Terry Betts		Blue	—	2nd R	
71·8	6	Barry Briggs		White	3	3rd Y	
	8	George Hunter		Y & B	1	4th	
3	10	Roy Trigg		Red	1	1st B	
Time	11	Colin Pratt		Blue	3	2nd Y	
72·2	9	Cyril Maidment		White	—	3rd R	
	12	Ivan Mauger		Y & B	2	4th W	
4	15	Mike Broadbanks		Red	2	1st Y	
Time	14	Jim Airey		Blue	1	2nd R	
72·2	16	Ray Wilson		White	—	3rd B	
	13	Eric Boocock		Y & B	3	4th W	
5 *	13	Eric Boocock		Red	3	1st R	
Time	1	Nigel Boocock		Blue	2	2nd B	
72·6	5	Reg Luckhurst		White	1	3rd W	
	9	Cyril Maidment		Y & B	—	4th Y	
6	14	Jim Airey		Red	1	1st Y	
Time	10	Roy Trigg		Blue	—	2nd W	
72·2	2	Rick France		White	2	3rd R	
	6	Barry Briggs		Y & B	3	4th B	
7	11	Colin Pratt		Red	3	1st R	
Time	15	Mike Broadbanks		Blue	1	2nd Y	
72·6	7	Terry Betts		White	—	3rd B	
	3	Martin Ashby		Y & B	2	4th W	
8	4	Trevor Hedge		Red	1	1st W	
Time	8	George Hunter		Blue	—	2nd Y	
73·0	12	Ivan Mauger		White	3	3rd R	
	16	Ray Wilson		Y & B	2	4th B	
9 *	6	Barry Briggs		Red	3	1st R	
Time	16	Ray Wilson		Blue	2	2nd B	
72·8	1	Nigel Boocock		White	—	3rd Y	
	11	Colin Pratt		Y & B	1	4th W	
10	12	Ivan Mauger		Red	3	1st R	
Time	5	Reg Luckhurst		Blue	—	2nd Y	
72·6	15	Mike Broadbanks		White	1	3rd W	
	2	Rick France		Y & B	2	4th B	

INTERVAL — Time for Refreshments at Buffet or Bar

Heat	RIDERS	Substitute	Helmet Colours	Points Scored by Riders	Result	Remarks
11 8	George Hunter		Red		1st Y	
Time 9	Cyril Maidment		Blue		2nd W	
73.8 3	Martin Ashby		White		3rd B	
14	Jim Airey		Y & B		4th R	
12 13	Eric Boocock		Red	3	1st R	
Time 4	Trevor Hedge		Blue	1	2nd W	
73.8 10	Roy Trigg		White	2	3rd B	
7	Terry Betts		Y & B		4th Y	E.F.
13 * 7	Terry Betts		Red	2	1st B	
Time 12	Ivan Mauger		Blue	3	2nd R	
14	Jim Airey		White	1	3rd W	
73.2 1	Nigel Boocock		Y & B		4th Y	
14 2	Rick France	1	Red	3	1st R	
Time 13	Eric Boocock		Blue	2	2nd B	
8	George Hunter		White		3rd Y	E.F.
73.8 11	Colin Pratt		Y & B	1	4th W	
15 16	Ray Wilson		Red	3	1st R	
Time 3	Martin Ashby		Blue		2nd Y	
10	Roy Trigg		White	1	3rd W	
74.2 5	Reg Luckhurst		Y & B	2	4th B	
16 9	Cyril Maidment		Red		1st B	
Time 6	Barry Briggs		Blue	3	2nd Y	
73.8 4	Trevor Hedge		White	1	3rd W	
15	Mike Broadbanks		Y & B	2	4th R	
17 * 1	Nigel Boocock		Red	2	1st W	
Time 8	George Hunter		Blue		2nd R	
15	Mike Broadbanks		White	3	3rd Y	
74.4 10	Roy Trigg		Y & B	1	4th B	
18 9	Cyril Maidment		Red		1st Y	
Time 2	Rick France		Blue	2	2nd B	
7	Terry Betts		White	1	3rd W	
74.8 16	Ray Wilson		Y & B	3	4th R	
19 3	Martin Ashby		Red		1st Y	
Time 12	Ivan Mauger		Blue	2	2nd B	
13	Eric Boocock		White	1	3rd W	
73.2 6	Barry Briggs		Y & B	3	4th R	
20 5	Reg Luckhurst		Red	1	1st W	
Time 14	Jim Airey		Blue	2	2nd B	
11	Colin Pratt		White	3	3rd R	
4	Trevor Hedge		Y & B		4th Y	

INDIVIDUAL SCORE CHART

RIDER	1	2	3	4	5	6	Tot.	RIDER	1	2	3	4	5	6	Tot.
1 N. Boocock	3	2	/	/	2		7	10 R. Trigg	1	/	2	1	1		5
2 R. France	2	2	2	3	2		11	11 C. Pratt	3	3	1	1	3		11
3 M. Ashby	1	2	2	/	/		5	12 I. Mauger	2	3	3	3	2		13
4 T. Hedge	/	1	1	1	/		3	13 E. Boocock	3	3	3	2	1		12
5 R. Luckhurst	2	1	/	2	1		6	14 J. Airey	1	1	3	1	2		8
6 B. Briggs	3	3	3	3	3		15	15 M. B'dbanks	2	1	1	2	3		9
7 T. Betts	E.F.	/	E.F.	2	1		3	16 R. Wilson	/	2	2	3	3		10
8 G. Hunter	1	/	/	/	/		1	17 C. Monk (R)							
9 C. Maidment	/	/	1	/	/		1	18 G. Mudge (R)							

Heat 21 (To be run only if two or more riders tie for First place)

	.....	.....	**Red**	.....	1st.....
	.....	.....	**Blue**	.....	2nd.....
	.....	.....	**White**	.....	3rd.....
.....	.....	.....	**Y. & B.**	.....	4th.....

Heat 22 (To be run only if two or more riders tie for Sixth place)

	.....	.....	**Red**	.....	1st.....
	.....	.....	**Blue**	.....	2nd.....
	.....	.....	**White**	.....	3rd.....
.....	.....	.....	**Y. & B.**	.....	4th.....

Presentation of trophy and winning cheques by JULIE ROGERS and Mr. MICHAEL CHRISTIANSEN, Editor of the "Sunday Mirror."

HAMMERAMA . .

THERE'S PLENTY OF LONDON PRIDE about tonight's event despite no "Hammer." We know Hackney skipper Colin Pratt will have a huge following and always relishes visits to Custom House; the same goes for former Hammer, Reg Luckhurst (Wimbledon), who rates our pacy, racy raceway among his favourites. His Plough Lane team-mate Trevor Hedge is a West Ham specialist. This once, *just* this once, they're gonna find unexpected allies among the Hammer fans.

AND OF COURSE, there's local boy Terry Betts, who rides for Kings Lynn and lives just up the road at White Roding, Essex. His whole village will be here tonight and we know Terry has many an aficiendo among the Hammer devotees.

WE WELCOME MOST SINCERELY the huge contingents of visiting fans. The evergreen Coventry crowd, for sure, will be here; they don't miss a trick, far less the British Final. The Swindon people, hoping to cheer on the fourth successive British title success by Barry Briggs, Daddy of 'em All, and the man who says: "West Ham is my favourite *racing* track".

FROM WOLVERHAMPTON, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Manchester, Norfolk, Nottingham, Bradford, from wherever you're from—it's lovely to have you at West Ham. If you haven't been here before—and you're in the Popular Enclosure, why not wander around to the Pits. We have a special viewing enclosure there—a unique part of our service here.

LIKE TO SAY A BIG HELLO to the family of Roy Trigg, the lone Oxford representative. We know you're all here, 'coz Roy came along personally and bought your tickets! Enjoy yourself, won't you? And here's hoping Roy keeps the family flag flying and has every break that's going.

DURING TONIGHT'S INTERVAL The Romford Drum and Trumpet Corps will be staging an item which has brought the house down at every Tattoo and Pageant at which they have appeared: The Parade of the Toy Soldiers. Don't miss it, folks. It's a real treat.

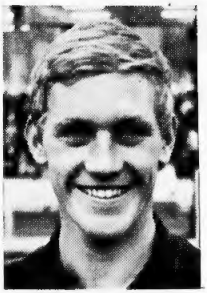
AND PRIOR TO RACING COMMENCING the talented lassies of the Dagenham Play Leaders Scheme Drum Majorette Group will be twirling their batons and giving a display in their own fantastic fashion. These local organisations do a great deal for kids in Cockneyland and we would appreciate it if you gave these local youngsters a really big hand.

IF YOU WILL PERMIT us slipping in a domestic note: every Tuesday here we have the world-famous West Ham "Hammers" on parade and if you haven't yet joined the happy band of regular fans, you're missing out on a real swinging night out for all the family. In addition to big-time league and Cup racing, we have fully sponsored second half programmes.

BRITISH SPEEDWAY LEAGUE TABLE
Up to and including August 5th.

		HOME			AWAY			
	P	*W*	*D*	*L*	*W*	*D*	*L*	*Pts*
West Ham	25	12	0	1	2	3	7	31
Newcastle	26	13	0	1	2	0	10	30
Newport	24	11	1	2	3	0	7	29
Swindon	22	10	0	0	4	0	8	28
Wolverhampton	22	12	0	0	1	1	8	27
Poole	26	11	1	1	1	2	10	27
Hackney	23	11	1	0	2	0	9	27
Wimbledon	25	11	1	1	1	2	9	27
Halifax	22	10	1	0	2	0	9	25
Long Eaton	25	10	3	0	1	0	11	25
Oxford	26	11	1	2	1	0	11	25
Coventry	23	8	0	1	3	2	9	24
Glasgow	28	9	1	4	2	1	11	24
Sheffield	22	2	1	0	2	0	10	23
Edinburgh	22	9	1	1	1	1	9	22
Exeter	22	11	0	2	0	0	9	22
Belle Vue	26	7	0	3	2	0	14	18
Cradley Heath	29	9	0	6	0	0	14	18
King's Lynn	22	4	0	5	0	0	13	8

TERRY BETTS. England and Kings Lynn. Second Reserve in last year's event, "The Blond Bombshell" has been having a great season with the Stars, having recently taken over the captaincy of the Norfolk side. Started racing at Norwich but had a period with Wolverhampton whilst learning the ropes. Capped this year against Sweden at Newport and Wimbledon and against Poland here and at Wolverhampton.

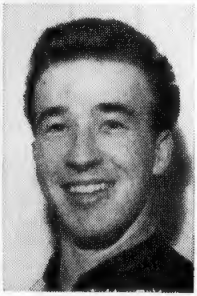


GEORGE HUNTER. Scotland and Edinburgh. The only Scotsman left in the competition, they reckon the "Meadowbank Express" to be Scotland's best discovery since Ken McKinlay. Rode for Scotland and Poland earlier this year and for Great Britain against Sweden.

PICTURE PARADE

CYRIL MAIDMENT. England and Belle Vue. Cyril has twice qualified for the World Final, on the occasions that the event's been held in Sweden. Capped earlier this year for England and Great Britain against Sweden at Exeter and Belle Vue respectively.

Tonight's Finalists



ROY TRIGG. England and Oxford. Since the unfortunate injury to Arne Pander, Trigg has developed into a regular double-figure man with the Cheetahs. Had his early experience with New Cross, Wimbledon and Poole before joining Hackney, whom he left at the start of the current season. Capped for Scotland against England earlier this year and also for Great Britain at Newport against Sweden and at Wolverhampton against Poland.

COLIN PRATT. England and Hackney. Started racing on the south coast at Poole and Southampton after initial runs at Rye House, Colin started coming to the fore with Stoke, where he stayed until they were forced to close down, moving into nearby Hackney, where he skippers the Hawks. A stylish and high scoring rider, as he showed when topping the Great Britain score chart against Poland here a few weeks back.

IVAN MAUGER. New Zealand and Newcastle. First rode British Speedway with Wimbledon in the late-fifties but made little impression and returned to New Zealand. He later rode with considerable success in Australia and was persuaded to return to line-up for Newcastle where he's been a star man for several years now. Winner of last year's European Final, when he went on to score a creditable 11 points for fourth place in his first World Final.

One, Two, Three, - and Four?

Bryan Seery looks at the Records

This will be the fourth time that the British Final has been the last stepping-stone to the World Final itself. In 1961 the British Final was staged to sort out the NINE qualifiers for Malmo. In 1964 it was used to obtain the EIGHT qualifiers for Gothenberg. In 1965 it was the stage which decided the SIX British riders to go through to the Final at Wembley. This year the situation is the same as in 1965—only six of the sixteen will go through to the night of the year.

Last year, true, there was a British Final staged, but it was only a minor link in the World Championship train, leading as it did to a Nordic-British Final, and then a European Final before the big night itself was reached. So we'll ignore last year's for the time being.

But in the other three—at Wembley in 1961 and 1964, and at West Ham in 1965—history has repeated itself in a truly remarkable way.

When something strange happens twice that's coincidence. When it happens a third time, it's miraculous. If it happens again tonight I just won't believe it.

Read on, and you'll see what I mean:

In 1961, the list of qualifiers for the Btitish Final, with their Semi-Final scores, looked like this:

1.	Barry Briggs	29
	Ronnie Moore	29
3.	Peter Craven	28
4.	Cyril Maidment	24
5.	Peter Moore	22
6.	Mike Broadbanks	21
	Ken McKinlay	21
	Bob Andrews	21
9.	Ron How	20
10.	Nigel Boocock	19
	Jack Scott	19
12.	Doug Davies	18
	Jack Young	18
	Neil Street	18
15.	Ronnie Genz	17
	Ray Cresp	17

Now, if the 1961 British Final had not been staged at all, the nine riders above the line would have gone on to Malmo. Bu staged it was, and, as a result, only one name was changed in the party which went to Sweden. Only Peter Moore of the top nine Semi-Finalists failed to qualify, and he was replaced by Ray Cresp.

On now to 1964. This year there were no Semi-Finalists, the sixteen British Finalists coming straight from the Qualifying Rounds thus:

1.	Brian Brett	43
2.	Barry Briggs	42
3.	Nigel Boocock	39
4.	Bob Andrews	38
5.	Mike Broadbanks	37
6.	Cyril Maidment	36
7.	Ron How	34
8.	Ken McKinlay	32
9.	Dick Fisher	32
10.	Trevor Hedge	31
11.	Jim Lightfoot	30
	Ron Mouhtford	30
	Bryan Elliott	30
	Tadeusz Teodorowicz	30
15.	Jimmy Gooch	29
16.	Billy Bales	28

As before, the riders above the line are the ones who would have gone to Sweden if there had been no British Final. But there was a British Final, and the result was EXACTLY THE SAME AS BEFORE. One of those above the line—Brian Brett—failed to make it, and was replaced by Dick Fisher.

So far, only coincidence.

But then came 1965.

Out of the Semi-Finals came the following:

1.	Charlie Monk	15
2.	Trevor Hedge	14
3.	Nigel Boocock	13
	Brian Brett	13
5.	Barry Briggs (with 3 heat wins)	11
6.	Ken McKinlay and Jimmy Gooch (with 2 heat wins)	11
8.	Ivan Mauger (with 1 heat win)	11
9.	Reg Luckhurst	10
	Mike Broadbanks	10
	Ronnie Genz	10
	Colin Gooddy	10
13.	Gordon Guasco	9
14.	Bill Andrews	8
	Peter Vandenberg	8
	Bob Andrews	8

And once again, FOR THE THIRD TIME IN SUCCESSION, the British Final resulted in only *one* rider, Reg Luckhurst this time, fighting his way through to the Final after qualifying underneath the line.

Three times in a row the same thing has happened. Can it possibly happen a fourth time? This year the line could fall beneath the names of Barry Biiggs, Reg Luckhurst, Eric Boocock, Trevor Hedge, Roy Trigg and Terry Betts. Will five of the six lucky lads tonight come from this group? And if so, which one of the other ten will force his way into the favoured group?

Or will this be the year when history DOESN'T repeat itself?

We'll soon know!

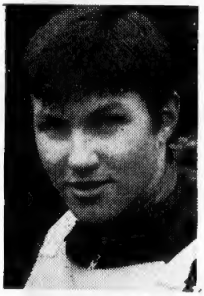
ERIC BOOCOCK. England and Halifax. Started his racing as soon as he was old enough to hold a licence, "Our Kid Eric" just failed to reach the European Final at Wembley last year, scoring eight points in the British Final. Topped the Great Britain score chart against Sweden this year with rides at Belle Vue, Glasgow, Newport and Wimbledon, he also scored heavily when capped against Poland.

PICTURE PARADE

JIM AIREY. Australia and Wolverhampton. Enjoying a great season with the Wolves, this is Jim's first British Final. First came to England to join Sunderland in 1964, he switched to Wolverhampton when the Co. Durham track was forced to close down and but for a year's absence in 1966, has been with the Wolves ever since. Capped for Great Britain.

MIKE BROADBANKS. England and Swindon. "Red Devil" Mike, skipper of the Robins, started-off the season so poorly that at one stage he was almost relegated to reserve berth, but the fighter he is showed out and he soon won back his place as an established star with the Wiltshire side—unfortunately too late to earn any International caps.

Tonight's Finalists



RAY WILSON. England and Long Eaton. The "Fireball" of British Speedway, Ray is seeking every opportunity he can to gain further experience. Toured Australia last Winter, he's hoping to go back again soon. Has also visited Poland, and in September is very hopeful of visiting Czechoslovakia. Six Great Britain caps have come Wilson's way this year.

CHARLIE MONK. Australia and Glasgow. Sensational winner of the 1965 Internationale, Charlie has never quite recaptured his form of those early months of the British League but is nevertheless still heading the British League averages. International form recently could well mark the return to International Star Status for the "Quiet Man" of Speedway.

GEOFF MUDGE. Australia and Poole. Red-headed Geoff, who skippers the Pirates is one of those riders who just never lets anyone down; is always ready to put on a show; but has never really made the Big Time. A solid, rather than spectacular rider, Geoff earned International honours for Great Britain earlier this year against Poland on his own track.

"HAMMERS" FIXTURES AND RESULTS LIST - 1967

MARCH			
Tues.	28	West Ham v Wimbledon (SC)	L35-43
Thur.	30	Wimbledon v West Ham (SC)	L35-43
APRIL			
Tues.	4	West Ham v Edinburgh (BL)	W51-27
Fri.	7	Hackney v West Ham (Ch)	L30-48
Mon.	10	Exeter v West Ham (BL)	L36-42
Tues.	11	West Ham v Swindon (BL)	W44-34
Mon.	17	Newcastle v West Ham (BL)	L24-54
Tues.	18	West Ham v Kings Lynn (BL)	W42-36
Tues.	25	West Ham v Coventry (BL)	W48-30
Sat.	29	Edinburgh v West Ham (BL)	D39-39
MAY			
Tues.	2	West Ham v Glasgow (BL)	W51-27
Fri.	5	Wolver'ton v West Ham (BL)	L35-43
Tues.	9	West Ham v Newcastle (BL)	W49-28
Tues.	16	W. Ham—W'ld Ch'ship (QR)	R.France
Tues.	23	West Ham v Crad. Heath (BL)	W52-26
Sat.	27	Kings Lynn v West Ham (BL)	Rnd. off
Tues.	30	West Ham v Poole (BL)	W44-34
JUNE			
Sat.	3	Long Eaton v West Ham (BL)	D39-39
Tues.	6	West Ham v Glasgow (K2)	W67-29
Fri.	9	Glasgow v West Ham (BL)	W46-32
Tues.	13	West Ham v Wimbledon (BL)	W43-35
Tues.	20	West Ham v Belle Vue (BL)	W53-25
Sat.	24	Coventry v West Ham (BL)	Rnd. off
Tues.	27	West Ham v Rest of London	W50-28
Fri.	30	Hackney v West Ham (BL)	L37-41
		West Ham v Long Eaton (BL) ...	T.B.A.
JULY			
Tues.	4	West Ham v Hackney (BL)	L37-40
Tues.	11	West Ham v Wolver'ton (BL)	W43-35
Fri.	14	Newport v West Ham (BL)	L37-41
Tues.	18	Great Britain v Poland (TM)	L39-69
Sat.	22	Kings Lynn v West Ham (BL)	W44-34
Tues.	25	West Ham v Exeter (BL)	W48-30
Thur.	27	Wimbledon v West Ham (BL)	D39-39
Sat.	29	Cradley Heath v West Ham (BL)	L44-43
AUGUST			
Tues.	1	West Ham v Swindon (KO)	W51-45
Wed.	2	Poole v West Ham (BL)	L31-46
Tues.	8	West Ham v Sheffield (BL)	W54-24
Thur.	10	Sheffield v West Ham (BL)	W45-33
Tues.	15	West Ham—British Final	
Sat.	19	Halifax v West Ham (BL)	.....
Tues.	22	West Ham v Oxford (BL)	
Thur.	24	Oxford v West Ham (BL)	.....
Tues.	29	West Ham v Wimbledon (LC)	.....
Thur.	31	Wimbledon v West Ham (LC)	.....
SEPTEMBER			
Sat.	2	Belle Vue v West Ham (BL)	.....
Tues.	5	West Ham v Hackney (KO)	.....
Fri.	8	Hackney v West Ham (LC)	.....
Tues.	12	West Ham v Halifax (BL)	.....
Tues.	19	West Ham v Newport (BL)	.....
Tues.	26	West Ham—Open Meeting	
Sat.	30	Swindon v West Ham (BL)	.....
OCTOBER			
Fri.	6	Hackney v West Ham (PEE)	.....

NEXT TUESDAY ★ **"HAMMERS" v. OXFORD** ★ **At 7.45 p.m.**

British Speedway League Match

WORLD SPEEEEEEEEEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIPFINAL

7.00 p.m. SATURDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER ★

Sponsored by the SUNDAY MIRROR

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Tickets now available at all British League tracks

Seats: 30/-; 20/-; 15/-; 12/6, Standing Enclosure: 7/6

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Printed for the Publishers WEST HAM SPEEDWAY LTD. by STADIUM PRESS, The Sports Printers